

Minutes of the Acadia Road Combined Daycare Communicare Society

Nov 20, 2007, in the Administration Building

In Attendance (in bold; absent members are not in bold):

Infant Center		3-5 Centers	
Little Goslings:	Lisa Sundstrom (VP Advocacy, Faculty) Cristina Conati	Acadia:	Katherine Todd Millar (VP Advocacy, Student)
Toddler Centers		Little Raven:	Ben Pfeiffer (Advocacy Webmaster) Maria Ezhova
Sitka:	Laura Wheeler	Pacific Spirit/ S7UMUX Kindergarten	Cristina Conati Reuben Ford
Huckleberry:	Kelli Kadokawa (Fundraising) Leslie and John Pitcher	Tillicum:	Paul Pavlidis (Webmaster) Megan Riter
Canada Goose:	Jeff Terry	Lluvia:	Jessica Irwin (Co-Secretary, Treasurer)
Discovery:		Barish:	Jessica Irwin (Co-Secretary, Treasurer) Brit Lampe (Fundraising)
Lilliput:	Julie Bettinger (Co-Secretary) Jim Salzman Margaret Murphy (Traffic)	Summer of '73:	Julie Stitt (President) Kristin Loheyde (VP Advocacy, Staff)
Chuva:		Kids Club:	Annie Moradain
Staff		Other	
Director	Darcelle Cotton Bev Christian	AMS	Brandon Goodmurphy

Visitors: Sharaden (Lluvia)

Please ask your council rep or senior staff members for contact information if you have any questions.

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1. Review of the Minutes

Minutes: The minutes from the **Oct 18, 2007** meeting have been approved.

2. Introductions

See attendance of board members in bold on first page.

3. Administrators Report (Darcelle/Bev)

Darcelle and Bev are working on a provincial grant application to get capital funds for the expansion. The rules specify one grant per address, so getting addresses for each of the new centers. One of the questions in the application asks what other grants we've received, and UBC has had childcare here for 39 years and have not received a single capital grant during that time.

Bev is working on the budget for the new centers, which will require a 40-50% increase in staffing. It needs to be in this year's budget if we open next year. With the mixed age grouping model of 1 year old to kindergarten age, a lower ratio is required throughout the day to meet the needs of the younger children

The affiliation statistics are done every October. By program type and age group, and the total number of kids enrolled. Are counting each family only once, so if both parents are affiliated, we are prioritizing one (students then faculty then staff, and show dual status). Each child is only counted once. (The report was distributed to council). The total numbers without Lluvia: 35% students, 39% faculty, 18% staff, 23% have dual status, and 7% are alumni or community. Little Goslings (10 children total) has 20% students, 70% faculty, and 10% alumni. The one alumni family at Little Goslings was a student when the child was enrolled. Parents on maternity leave are still counted as affiliated. The Lluvia numbers have more unaffiliated families (43%) since it is enrolled differently and usually does not have a long wait list, and there are lots of preschools on this side of town. In winter, we give access to the families that are here, and then fill off the waiting list and usually get to the community group at that time. Between the time of enrollment and September there are usually cancellations, those positions are filled by any students, staff or faculty who may have applied during that time.. Julie S.: how does this jive with our targets for students? Where will we be taking the spots from if we need to keep our student numbers at 40%? Next year, when the no longer affiliated start to pay a higher rate it should help lower those numbers, and the other spots will probably come from faculty. What if UNA members had access? 20% of the new spots would be UNA if they contribute. The University has to decide whose money they are using and what access they get. We should discuss this at a later meeting and outside of council.

Sibling policy—44 families have siblings in the system. 18 are students, 18 are faculty, 6 staff and 2 are alumni. The 6 priority placements for faculty (6 per year, 12 in total) are typically filled by toddlers. There are 14 siblings on infant list wanting care by January.

4. Portable Gym Equipment information (Darcelle/Bev)

The purpose of our fundraising was to raise money for portable gym equipment for all of the centers to use that is stored in or near the gym. The recommendations from the staff in this building: bean bags (numbers and letters), balance pods, rhythm wands, hopping balls, body bags (a tension bag—can make the bag become a shape and they are often used to improve motor skills), a trampoline with sides, a climbing wall, a billowbo dome (stand on for balance), equipment storage and baskets for storage. Roland will build the storage area, and included the cost of materials. Grand total of estimate is 5454.00, and the biggest item is \$3400 for the climbing wall.

Discussion: The kids and Kids Club would love the climbing wall. Only pay GST for school equipment, not PST. The estimate doesn't include tax. Brit: Motion to authorize the expenditure of money for the equipment recommended by the staff. Seconded and unanimously approved.

Action Items: 1) The staff is approved to buy the requested equipment, and will submit the receipts to council for reimbursement.

5. Fundraising Report, Grocery Fundraising (Britt)

We raised \$1900 from our grocery fundraiser!

6. 'Music with Chris' Concert Update (Jessica and Maria)

The concert is this Saturday, Nov 24 at 10:30 am at the Acadia Common's Block and the volunteers are setting up at 9:30. We need 5 volunteers minimum. Mara Elwood sent out fliers about the bake sale, and will be running the bake sale table. We seem to have a fair number of bakers. We will be selling goodies to eat at the event, with free coffee donated. Baked goods to take home will also be for sale. Mara will have signup sheets for eggnog pound cake and candied nuts that she will make for December delivery dates (to be dropped off at the daycare centers). Balloons will also be for sale—Maria will be in charge of that. We also plan to sell the Christmas books at the concert for \$10 each—we pay \$6.50 per book from the author, so we'll get \$3.50 profit per book.

Action Items: 1) Call for volunteers to work at the concert.

7. Parent Info Night report (Reuben and Maria)

Reuben and Maria—46 parents and 5 kindergartens were represented (one public school and four private). Response from the feedback forms (20 forms): *How heard about event?* Other parents, flier or reps, only 2 by advertisement. We may want to rethink our advertising strategy next year. *Useful or not?* Useful. *Balance of schools?* Number is right, and often said need more diversity in schools represented. We asked all schools, so it's really all about which want to come. *What more can we do?* More info about after school care. Perhaps next year we should have someone to talk about this, since we already provide the handout. Perhaps we should give out all the contact info for all the schools to the parents to follow up, or so they can contact schools of interest not present. So it is clearly an event that we should continue, but there is room for improvement.

Action Items: 1) Discuss advertising strategies and find someone to speak about after school care for the event in 2008.

8. Advocacy Update (Lisa)

Candidate update: The Green party candidate, Dan Griss, is coming to the Feb 12 meeting and the NDP candidate, Rebecca Coad, is coming to our Jan 10 meeting. We have heard nothing from the conservative candidate, Deborah Meredith, which is somewhat surprising since she is UBC faculty.

Response to the focus on people document: Kristen, Julie and Lisa worked on the response letter, and sent it to Lisa Castle, Brian Sullivan, Fred Fotis, Angie Reedish, and others. Received a response from Lisa Castle promising to keep us updated. The document has not yet generated a lot of comments, so the deadline has been extended until the end of November. Please comment if you haven't-- there is an easy to use web form. Karon McLean sent us the link to Prof Toope's speech, and in the budget

presentation he made, one of the investment possibilities was in childcare. Maria: we have a motion to have council send a letter of support to Prof Toope to invest in childcare. Brit seconded and unanimously approved. Deadline for that is Dec 3, so try to draft a letter by the end of next week.

Action Items: 1) Advocacy reps will draft a letter to Prof. Toupe about the importance of investing in childcare.

9. Swap Meet

Table until next meeting.

Action Items: 1) Swap Meet on January agenda.

10. Set next meeting

Our meetings for the remainder of the academic year have been scheduled for the second Thursday of each month. The next meeting will be on Thursday, **Jan 10, 2008 at 7:00 pm** at the Main Office. The EXCEPTION to this is that the February meeting will be held on **Tuesday, Feb 12, 2008 at 7:00 pm**.

Meetings for 2008:

- Jan 10
- Feb 12
- Mar 13
- Apr 10
- May 8
- Jun 12—AGM